

- (c) if so, details thereof;
- (d) whether Government have received any suggestion from the Government of Kerala for setting up of wagon manufacturing unit in the State; and
- (e) if so, the response of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

- (b) and (c) Do not arise.
- (d) No, Sir.
- (e) Do not arise.

Stakeholders in Bharuch-Dahej Railway line conversion project

1931. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any MoU has been signed between RVNL, Gujarat Maritime Board, GIDC, Adani Port Ltd. and ONGC for gauge conversion of Bharuch-Dahej railway line;
- (b) the equity contribution of each stakeholders in the project;
- (c) whether any Public Sector Undertaking of Government of India is willing to invest in equity for the project;
- (d) the time frame for planning and implementation of the project; and
- (e) whether it is possible to integrate the corridor with dedicated freight corridor between Delhi-Mumbai?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed among Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL), Gujarat Maritime Board and Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation (GIDC).

(b) The proposed equity contribution (Rupees in crore) agreed by the shareholders so far is as under:—

Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL)-25

[8 December, 2006]

RAJYA SABHA

Dahej Special Economic Zone (SEZ) Ltd.-10

Gujarat Maritime Board-10

Gujarat Narmada Valley Fertilizer Company Ltd.-10

Adani Petronet (Dahej) Port Pvt. Ltd.-10

(c) No such response was received against Expression of Interest floated by RVNL.

(d) Two years after signing of Share Holders Agreement.

(e) It will be possible to integrate existing corridor with Western Dedicated Freight Corridor.

Gauge conversion of Gandhidham-Palampur rail line

1932. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of project of conversion of broad gauge of the Gandhidham-Palampur rail line, particularly, the progress made in the bridge work and ballast collection;

(b) whether any time bound programme has been formulated for the completion of this project; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) Gandhidham-Palampur gauge conversion project has been completed and commissioned. Phase-I of the project covering Palampur-Samkhiali (248 kms) was completed and commissioned for freight traffic on 24.03.2006 and passenger traffic on 26.10.2006. Phase-II of the project covering the balance section between Samakhiali and Gandhidham has been commissioned for freight traffic on 26.11.2006.

Multi-purpose travelling cards

1933. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to launch multi-purpose travel cards;